

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1. Apparatus for remote inspection of emergency equipment in installed positions at  
2           one or a system of emergency equipment stations, said apparatus comprising:

3                 a detector located at a emergency equipment station for detection of the presence of  
4           an obstruction to viewing of or access to the emergency equipment station; and

5                 an electronic circuit in communication between the detector and a remote central  
6           station for issue of a signal to the remote central station upon detection of the obstruction to  
7           viewing of or access to the emergency equipment station.

1           2. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment  
2           station includes a fire extinguisher station.

1           3. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment  
2           station includes a fire alarm pull station.

1           4. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment  
2           station includes a defibrillator station with a portable defibrillator.

1           5. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment  
2           station includes an emergency lighting station and the obstruction to viewing acts as an  
3           obstruction to operation for illumination.

1           6. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector initiates a  
2           signal from the electronic circuit to the remote central station upon detection of the  
3           obstruction.

1           7. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 6, wherein the signal includes a  
2           wireless signal.

1           8. The apparatus of remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the obstruction is disposed  
2           within a range of about 6 inches to about 10 feet from the emergency equipment station.

1           9. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector initiates a  
2 signal from the electronic circuit to another emergency equipment station upon detection of  
3 the obstruction.

1           10. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 9, wherein the signal includes a  
2 wireless signal.

1           11. The apparatus of remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector comprises a  
2 proximity sensor.

1           12. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an acoustic signal transmitter and an acoustic signal detector.

1           13. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an ultrasonic transducer.

1           14. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an electromagnetic signal detector.

1           15. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an electromagnetic signal transmitter and an electromagnetic signal detector.

1           16. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an optical signal transmitter and an optical signal detector.

1           17. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor  
2 comprises an infrared signal transmitter and an infrared signal detector.

1           18. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit is  
2 further adapted to issue a signal to the remote central station and to receive another signal  
3 from the remote central station.

1           19. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 18, wherein the issued signal  
2 includes a wireless signal.

1           20. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a wireless signal transmitter for transmitting a wireless signal to the remote  
3 central station.

1           21. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a wireless signal receiver for receiving a wireless signal from the remote  
3 central station.

1           22. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a receiver for receiving a signal from another emergency equipment  
3 station.

1           23. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a receiver for receiving a wireless signal from another emergency  
3 equipment station.

1           24. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a transmitter for transmitting a signal to another emergency equipment  
3 station.

1           25. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit  
2 further comprises a transmitter for transmitting a wireless signal to another emergency  
3 equipment station.

1           26. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency  
2 equipment station includes an emergency egress station.

1           27. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector is included  
2 in a housing separated from the emergency equipment.